

trash. As a result, Elsmere Canyon became a prime location for a new landfill to handle the country's trash. However, the choice of Elsmere Canyon had major shortcomings that were easily recognizable.

The first issue involved preserving the integrity of our National Forest System. The Angeles National Forest, which is visited by over 30 million people each year, is considered by Southern Californians to be our "Central Park". Using part of the forest for a landfill was, in my view, bad public policy. Second, the Elsmere landfill would potentially contaminate groundwater and displace endangered wildlife and plant life in the Angeles. Third, after the 1994 Northridge earthquake, whose epicenter was a mere eight miles from Elsmere Canyon, the presence of seismic activity presented additional concerns that had to be addressed.

Finally, I was deeply concerned Los Angeles County was already accepting trash from other counties in California. I cannot agree with the notion that new landfills should be built in order to accept other communities' trash.

Additionally, there are proven alternatives to landfills, such as recycling and environmentally-safe incineration programs, and we need to explore them. Instead of passing waste from one area to the next, we should investigate the potential of disposing of trash in other manners. This also would alleviate growing tensions between our communities regarding the transportation of waste.

In 1995, I was proud to introduce legislation prohibiting the Secretary of Agriculture from approving any land transfer of Elsmere Canyon for the purposes of creating a landfill. I was even prouder when this legislation was approved as part of the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996. This legislation was the result of a community coming together—environmentalists and business leaders, government representatives, and civic-minded individuals—to bring about this historic change.

Yet this fight is not over Mr. Speaker. The portion of Elsmere Canyon that is not owned by the Forest Service is still viewed by Los Angeles County as a potential site for a future landfill. As you might imagine, this would be a major blow to our community and one that I continue to work to prevent.

However, I am not here today just to speak words but to seek action. I have requested and am ultimately hopeful that Browning-Ferris Industries, which in late 1995 purchased the company that proposed the original Elsmere landfill, will donate its Elsmere parcel to the Angeles National Forest. Should this occur, the entire canyon would become part of the Angeles National Forest and would be preserved and enjoyed for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I view Earth Day as an opportunity to remember the natural beauty and wonders that God has given us and what we can do to preserve those gifts. Elsmere Canyon truly is one of those gifts and I am proud to have done what I can to preserve this marvelous place. I am also proud of the work that my community has done to save this treasure. So as we celebrate Earth Day, I would like to take the time to remember the accomplishments of my community to make Earth a better place to live. I also would like to recall how these achievements were accomplished. Not through finger pointing or heated debate. Our community came together with a common

goal. A goal to make our community, our state, our nation, and our earth a better place.

TRIBUTE TO THE COORS BREWING COMPANY

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American company, one that will be celebrating its 125th anniversary next month. The success of Coors Brewing Company is a great American story. When Adolph Coors arrived in this country in 1868, he didn't speak English, but he did know how to brew a great beer.

From 1873 until today, Coors has made its reputation on the lasting values of its founder. The great American values of tradition, commitment, quality, and innovation. Those values helped Coors grow from a tiny local brewery in Golden, Colorado into a world-class competitor producing more than 20 million barrels of beer each year. Today, Coors' familiar products are sold not only across the U.S. but in 45 foreign countries as well.

Through the years, Coors has been at the forefront of responsible community involvement, and today it is recognized as a leader in corporate citizenship. That's why Business Ethics magazine recently placed Coors in the top ten of its "The 100 Best Corporate Citizens." Coors also have been cited numerous times for its outstanding record in attracting, hiring, and promoting minority Americans. It is what you would expect, given Coors record of investing hundreds of millions of dollars in economic development and other programs designed to strengthen Hispanic and African-American communities.

When you do business in Colorado, respect for the environment is, of course, a must. And Coors is a leader here too. Coors launched the aluminum recycling revolution back in 1959 when it began offering a penny for every returned can. Since 1990, the Coors Pure Water 2000 program has provided more than \$2.5 million to support more than 700 environmental programs across the nation.

One of its most noteworthy accomplishments has been in developing and promoting effective programs to discourage abuse of its products. Coors has a record of encouraging responsible consumption of its products by adults—and only adults. Over the years, millions of dollars have been devoted to community-based education and prevention programs. Coors' "21 means 21" message has been one of the elements responsible for the steady decline in underage drinking and drunk driving that we in the United States have been fortunate to see in recent years.

Coors has set the standard for responsible advertising, and has led the industry with policies to ensure that its ads encourage moderation, and are directed only to those over the age of 21.

This week, I urge my colleagues to join me in a toast to the thousands of Coors employees, those who work at Coors breweries in Colorado, Tennessee and Virginia, and at Coors distributorships in every state of the nation: Congratulations on a job well done.

EARTH DAY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, in commemorating Earth Day, I rise to pay tribute to Rachel Carson, whose courage and conviction in writing the 1962 acclaimed novel *Silent Spring* inspired a generation to action. She was the founder of the modern environmental movement, and her spirit was one of the driving forces behind the first Earth Day in April of 1970. I participated in that first Earth Day, as I have in each of them for 28 years, to demonstrate my support of the environmental gains we have made and to renew my commitment to those issues we must still resolve.

One of the most pressing issues that we are faced with today is that of global climate change, the effects of which can be seen in the unprecedented severity of climate changes ravaging the world. The global scientific community has established the seriousness of the problem through their landmark research in Antarctica.

In December of 1997 I participated in the Kyoto Round of the Global Conference on Climate Change, a process begun in 1992 at the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit. The agreement which was reached in Kyoto outlines the important principles which need to be undertaken to slow the emission of greenhouse gases, which are the primary contributors to the warming of our climate. On this important day we recognize the challenges that we must confront as a society to assure that the earth remains a livable place for future generations. We must take advantage of new technologies and fuel alternatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and with these technologies assist developing nations to be environmentally responsible as they compete in the global marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, thirty-six years ago, Rachel Carson changed our thinking about the Earth. On this Earth Day, I urge my colleagues and the American people to honor her by embracing public policy which will continue to make our world a better place in which to live.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF COL. RICHARD MARTIN FROM THE CASTLE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with respect and appreciation to recognize one of my friends and constituents, Col. Richard D. Martin of Winton, California, in his retirement as executive director of the Castle Joint Powers Authority.

Colonel Martin, a former Wing Commander at Castle Air Force Base, has directed our successful reuse efforts from the beginning. In 7 years as director, he has led the effort which transformed Castle into one of the best examples in our Nation of successful conversion of military facilities into civilian use.